

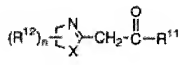
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A recording material comprising, on a support, a recording layer containing a diazo compound and an azoliny acetic acid derivative as a coupler which reacts with the diazo compound to form a color, wherein the azoliny acetic acid derivative is a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

General formula (1)

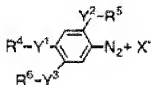


wherein X represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; R¹¹ represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group, -OR¹³ or -NR¹⁴R¹⁵; R¹² represents a substituent; R¹³ represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group; R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group; n represents an integer from 0 to 4; and when n is an integer of 2 or greater, two or more R¹²s may be linked with each other to form a ring.

2. (canceled).

3. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is a diazonium salt represented by the following general formula (2):

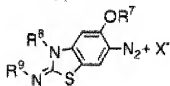
General formula (2)



wherein R^4 and R^6 each independently represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group or an acyl group, and may be linked with each other to form a ring; R^5 represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylsulfonyl group, an arylsulfonyl group, an acyl group or a heterocyclic group; Y^1 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or an amino group; Y^2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a single bond; Y^3 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a hydrogen atom, provided that when Y^3 is a hydrogen atom, R^6 is not present; and X^- represents an anion.

4. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is a diazonium compound represented by the following general formula (3):

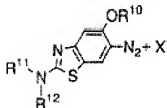
General formula (3)



wherein R^7 and R^8 each independently represents an alkyl group or an aryl group; R^9 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group; and X^- represents an anion.

5. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is a diazonium compound represented by the following general formula (4):

General formula (4)



wherein R^{10} , R^{11} and R^{12} each independently represents an alkyl group or an aryl group; R^{11} and R^{12} may be linked with each other to form a ring; and X^- represents an anion.

6. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is encapsuled in a microcapsule.

7. (original): The recording material according to claim 6, wherein the microcapsule has a microcapsule wall made from at least one polymer selected from polyurethane or polyurea.

8. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the coupler is contained in the recording layer in an amount of 0.2 to 8 moles per 1 mole of the diazo compound.

9. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is contained in the recording layer in an amount of 0.02 to 3g/m².

10. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains an organic base.

11. (original): The recording material according to claim 10, wherein the organic base is used in an amount of 0.1 to 30 parts by mass per 1 part by mass of the diazo compound.

12. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains a color forming auxiliary.

13. (original): The recording material according to claim 12, wherein the color forming auxiliary is a heat melting substance.

14. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains an antioxidant.

15. (original): The recording material according to claim 14, wherein the antioxidant is added in an amount of 0.05 to 100 parts by mass per 1 part by mass of the diazo compound.

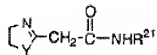
16. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains a free radical generating agent.

17. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains a vinyl monomer.

18. (original): The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer is a thermal recording layer.

19. (original): An azolinylnyl acetic acid derivative represented by the following general formula (1a);

General formula (1a)



wherein Y represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; and R²¹ represents an alkyl group or an aryl group.